

CITY OF KENT 2021 SPRING RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING COLLECTION EVENT REPORT

1. TIME AND LOCATION

March 6, 9 am to 3 pm

Hogan Park at Russell Road, 24400 Russell Road, Kent, WA 98032

2. PARTICIPANTS

The number of participants and the average vehicle per minute are shown in Table 1.

Table 1, PARTICIPATION RATE

PARTICIPATION	SPRING 2020
Number of vehicles	1,253
Average vehicles per minute	3.48

2. MATERIALS COLLECTED PER VEHICLE

1,253 cars dropped off materials at the event. In Table 2, we show the number of cars that brought in each material during the day. The table below shows data to determine the most visited collection sites for the day.

Table 2, NUMBER OF VEHICLES WITH THESE MATERIALS

Item	Number of participants bringing this material	% of participants bringing this material
Shredding	513	40.9%
Metal and Appliances	443	35.4%
Batteries	334	26.7%
Styrofoam	301	24.0%
Electronics	250	20.0%
Cardboard	181	14.4%
Mattresses and Box Springs	137	10.9%
Wood	93	7.4%
Tires	75	6.0%
CFC – Refrigerators, Freezers, Air Conditioners	74	5.9%
Toilets and Sinks	63	5.0%
Propane Tanks	48	3.8%

Note: The table shows the records from 1,253 cars.

The figures add up to more than 100% because many people brought more than one material, although a significant number (49 percent) only brought in one material. In addition, 40 percent

of the participants that brought in paper for shredding only brought that material, and 37 percent of the participants that brought in mattresses only brought in mattresses. A large number of people (74%) dropped off materials at the back lot. We will examine this data further for possible improvements in the traffic flow for future events.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Venue: Hogan Park offered us a good site. We encourage the City to continue to stage recycling events at Hogan Park. The recycling events require a site the same or larger than this venue to keep the traffic moving.

Traffic flow: A total of 1,253 cars attended the event. The cars were lined up all day and flowed in at 3.48 cars per minute. By 8:40 am, cars formed a long line on Russell Road. We opened twenty minutes early to alleviate the congestion on the street. Despite the long lines, the traffic flowed smoothly within the event and the collectors worked as fast as possible to keep up with the traffic. The number of participants continued to arrive at a steady pace throughout the day. The certified flagger kept traffic flowing on Russell Road for those vehicles not attending the event. We coned off two lanes entering in the metal and mattresses collection area which improved the flow of traffic in the event site. The busiest materials included shredding and metals, followed by batteries and styrofoam. With the high participation, the line to the small lot moved at a slow crawl most of the afternoon. We expedited the cars with shredding only to bypass the other collection sites in the small lot and line up directly for shredding.

COVID 19 Precautions: The City worked closely with King County Health Department staff to carry out a safe event for participants and vendors. The staff were all screened for COVID and temperatures were taken before any cars arrived. All staff wore masks and encouraged participants to stay in their car wherever possible. Participants wore masks when they entered the site. We had masks available if they didn't have one. Staff and participants paid close attention to carry out these precautions.

Participant response: The 42-degree day was cloudy with little rain. The participants continually expressed gratitude to the staff. They expressed delight to see all the other participants recycling. This popular community event answered the need for many residents to clean out their garages and closets and properly recycle their un-needed items.

Vendor and Staff feedback: Staff heard many comments about the smooth traffic flow and good organization of this event. Some of the vendors, specifically Shred and StyroRecycle, said they had more cars than they expected.

Staffing: Six staff members greeted participants and guided them where to take their materials. One Certified Flagger directed traffic on Russell Road. Greeters informed participants where to take items that were not collected at the event including household goods, hazardous waste and florescent lights. The event staff are listed in Table 3.

TABLE 3, EVENT STAFF

Green Solutions event staff
Sharon Conroy
Rick Hlavka
David Baker
Jill Weidman
David Cohen
Stacey Collins
One Certified Flagger

Complaints and Comments: Almost all of the participants were relieved and happy to have a place to recycle their materials. We received a few complaints that cars were entering from two directions instead of one. We will consider whether a change to one direction only will alleviate the wait time. When asked, a few participants reported they waited for 20 to 40 minutes to enter the site. Some folks were frustrated that they had to wait too long. One car entered and did not have anything to recycle, they were just following the other cars, so we directed them to an easy exit. We greeted a few participants that were not fluent in English and we communicated with them so that they understood where to drop off their materials.